

made without any material loss in all our established congregations, especially when we consider that the true Christian life is one of continued sacrifice and giving. In this way the home mission work might be made interesting by the combined talent of our ablest preachers in the entire brotherhood, while our congregation would be blessed and amply rewarded for the free gift of their pastors to the people for whom they would labor.

But to return to the question how to raise the money wherewith we can inaugurate a foreign mission service. I suggest that every S. S. superintendent throughout the brotherhood impress the missionary labors of St. Paul, (now fresh in our minds) upon the hearts of our children and young people. Let us teach them that they can absolutely have a part in preaching Christ to the poor people who live in utter darkness. The giving of their dollars and cents certainly is giving that much of their life and labor to the support of the missionary who is only giving his life and labor to the blessed cause, and in the time of reward the givers to the missionaries will be rewarded with them. Most of us are not fitted to carry the gospel message to heathen nations. We must remain at home and supply the stuff. But thank God we can have an interest with the soldiers of the cross who fight the battles of the Lord in heathen lands. Among the two and one-half tribes of Israel there were only the trained soldiers that crossed the river of Jordan to fight the enemy. But by far the greater number remaining at home, nevertheless shared equally with them in their glorious victory. The servants of David that remained by the stuff, must have an equal share of the spoils, with the soldiers who had gone forth to fight the battle and gain the victory.

Now I suggest that we announce through the EVANGELIST that every S. S. superintendent in the entire brotherhood set apart Sunday, Dec. 19, 1897 to take up a public collection for foreign missions. Give the young folks time and opportunity for this noble work, and at the season of the year when God sent us the greatest gift from heaven that could possibly be given to us, now will we substantially manifest our gratefulness with a proper gift, for the hastening of Christ's second advent this coming Christmas season, brother superintendent, what say you? Let us hear.

Summit Mills, Pa.

No life is ever lost that is put into a high cause or an unselfish service. The eternal years of God will spend themselves in revealing the success and glory of that life.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

At the late National Conference, speaking on the subject of missions, one brother said something like this: "My classification of the subject is: 1. Go. 2. Let go. 3. Help go."

Quite a good way of putting it. However, the relation between the "Let go" and "Help go" is very close. If I am willing to let go, it is because I help go, and *vice versa*. But are there not many helpers (?) who are whole-souled believers in a certain "Let go" theory? that is, they seem to be willing to let others go,—yes, let them go and do it all. They are like the fellow who slept during the sermon, and who, when asked by the minister why he did so, replied, "Sir, it is but a token of the supreme confidence I have in you; I knew you would tell the truth without my watching."

And now I am reminded of the horse I heard of last week that refused to pull his part of the street car. The other horse could not draw the car himself, so at last, it came to a stand-still. By and by the driver, by the help of some of the passengers, succeeded in getting the car started, and then it began to strike the heels of the balky horse; for some distance this was kept up until finally the false horse stretched the traces and began to pull as tho he had always been faithful and true.

Now that is very bad, indeed, but it is terrible in the extreme, when the salvation car must be thrust against the heels of any one to get them along; and yet how often is this true! Are there not many who stretch the traces of the gospel car because it strikes their heels—not their hearts—and they are thus forced either to pull or get run over. And perhaps this is why there is so much "kicking" once in a while,—the heels are sore and they fly up when the car strikes them because it doesn't feel good.

Well, perhaps it is better to pull because you have to, than not to pull at all, but that is not the Lord's way. I used to know a man who had much trouble with his team; but he took a different way to start his horses when he would stall. He would usually get in front with a tempting sheaf of oats, and inasmuch as his horses were never very well fed, the oats generally produced the desired results. Well, if we are drawing the gospel car to suit the Lord, we will not do so because it is forced upon us, nor because someone is in front coaxing us along, patting us on the head and saying nice things. True yoke fellows do not need any such treatment.

Did any of you ever hear the story of the bear treeing the dog? There was a certain fellow who asked, "Why, I didn't know that a dog could climb a tree."

"I know, but this one had to," was the startling response.

Churches are missionary only to that extent that they are not acting from this "had to," or "have to" principle. The true missionary works because he loves to work, and he loves to work because he has the mind and spirit of Christ who "loved us and gave himself for us."

We are apt to say much about our "Gospel Alone" position as a church. That is right; I love it, but let us see to it now that we are really "true to name," and worthy of so great an honor. Let us not be "Gospel Alone" in the sense that we are willing to leave it alone and not use it, or not live up to its privileges. Let us pray that we may be filled with its spirit; then our service will be no painful drudgery, nor irksome task, but it will be one of joy and good cheer and thus will others the better understand the meaning of the angel's message, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." Luke 2:10.

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THE OHIOAGO MISSION.

Our sermons on baptism last week are being heard from, and results will follow. This week I have been giving a series of talks mostly to the young people, and laying for some future work a foundation. We have received a box of clothing from Fall's City, Neb., and a box of provisions from Mexico, Ind., for which thanks are returned. We need such things, and as they come in will be reported. Our fuel and other expenses will now increase and we are relying on our friends, our foes will not help, but hinder if they can. Only recently I am told some parties were taken to an empty building south of us, the building was shown to the people and they were told that the evidence was before them that the mission was broken and gone. We are here, brethren, alive and working, and none of these things move us, neither count we our life dear. The work goes on and this is all there is about it. Pray for us. Do not be like one of the boys in the mission. I asked them to go home and kneel by their beds before sleeping and say their prayers. One little fellow said, "I would not be caught doing a thing like that."

Brother Neff and wife, of Nappanee, with their daughter Gracie, and Sisters Caspar and Smeltzer, stopped to see us. Brother Rothenberger, of LaPaz, was with us over Sunday and attended and took part in our services, to all of which we say, "Come again."

Brother Easterbrook left for home this week, going into business we understand.